

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 RSC-01 MC-01

CIAE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 PRS-01 DODE-00 EUR-12 L-02

IO-10 H-01 /066 R

DRAFTED BY AF:DBEASUM:BJR

APPROVED BY AF:DBEASUM

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P 242358Z DEC 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 281495

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, ML, UV

SUBJECT: UPPER VOLTA REQUESTS US HELP

1. UPPER VOLTA AMBASSADOR YAGUIBOU CALLED ON ASST SECY EASUM DECEMBER 24 TO BRIEF HIM ON VOLTAN POSITION ON BORDER DISPUTE WITH MALI (WHICH ALREADY FULLY RECORDED IN CABLE TRAFFIC).

2. YAGUIBOU SAID LAMIZANA HAD INSTRUCTED HIM SEEK EASUM OUT IMMEDIATELY IN ORDER EXPLAIN "FACTS" OF THE SITUATION AND PRESENT GOUV'S URGENT NEED FOR ARMS AND EQUIPMENT. "COMPARED TO MALI, WE HAVE NOTHING." YAGUIBOU GAVE EASUM LIST OF NON-LETHAL ITEMS (TENTS, SHOES, BLANKETS, CLOTHING, MESSKITS, RATIONS, ETC) WHICH HE SAID UPPER VOLTA PREPARED BUY FOR CASH IF NECESSARY. MOST ITEMS REQUESTED IN
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QUANTITIES OF 10,000. HE HAD NO IDEA OF PRICE OR

TOTAL VALUE. HE ASKED WHETHER MUNITIONS CONTROL REGULATIONS CAME INTO PLAY IN EVENT OF SUCH PURCHASES. EASUM SAID THAT SOME OF THESE ITEMS WOULD NOT NORMALLY BE COVERED BY MC LICENSING REQUIREMENTS.

3. YAGUIBOU SAID UPPER VOLTA DETERMINED TO FIGHT. A NATIONAL DEFENSE FUND HAD BEEN OPENED IN OUAGADOUGOU.

MANY VOLTANS WERE CONTRIBUTING. OTHERS WERE COMING HOME FROM THE IVORY COAST TO TAKE UP ARMS.

4. YAGUIBOU SAW SINISTER INTENT ON PART OF FRENCH FROM FACT THAT VOLTAN CADASTER DIRECTOR KOUKA SANWIDI HAD BEEN INFORMED IN AUGUST BY NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC INSTITUTE IN PARIS THAT MAPS HE HAD REQUESTED WOULD BE SENT WITH EXCEPTION OF MAP OF DJIBO AREA, WHICH WAS "UNAVAILABLE" AND WOULD NOT BE PROVIDED. YAGUIBOU ALSO QUESTIONED WHY FRENCH HAD PERMITTED LARGE ARMS DELIVERY TO MALI IN NOVEMBER ALTHOUGH THEY WELL KNEW THAT LAST ATTEMPT BY VOLTANS AND MALIANS TO SETTLE THE PROBLEM, MEETING IN BOBO DIOULASSOU IN SEPTEMBER, HAD ENDED IN BITTER FAILURE. YAGUIBOU EXTREMELY CRITICAL OF MALIANS WHO MET EARLIER THIS MONTH WITH LAMIZANA IN FARAMANA WITH FULL PANOPLY OF SABERRATTING MILITARY ARRAY WHEREAS LAMIZANA SHOWED UP WITH HIS USUAL MODEST RETINUE.

5. EASUM SAID THAT US HAD FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH BOTH UPPER VOLTA AND MALI, AND BELIEVED THAT OBLIGATIONS OF SUCH FRIENDSHIP INCLUDED TAKING NO ACTION THAT WOULD PREJUDICE CHANCES OF PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF THE PROBLEM. EASUM SAID WE WOULD WATCH WITH INTEREST THE RESULTS OF PRESIDENT EYADEMA'S INTERCESSION AND THE LOME MEETING DECEMBER 26. HE ASKED WHAT WOULD BE THE NEXT STEP IN THE EVENT THE RESULTS OF THAT MEETING WERE NOT CONSIDERED BY THE VOLTAN GOVERNMENT AS SATISFACTORY. YAGUIBOU SAID THE GOUV WOULD GO NEXT TO THE OAU; IF THAT FAILED, THEY WOULD CALL ON THE UNITED NATIONS. AND IF THAT WERE NOT SUCCESSFUL, THEY WOULD STILL APPEAL TO INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC OPINION. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BORDER INCIDENTS, TERRITORIAL CLAIMS, MEETINGS, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE281495
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: DBEASUM:BJR
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740374-0420
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741211/aaaaajcp.tel
Line Count: 99
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 MAY 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <25 MAR 2003 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UPPER VOLTA REQUESTS US HELP
TAGS: PBOR, ML, UV, (YAGUIBOU), (EASUM, DONALD)
To: OUAGADOUGOU MULTIPLE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005